

PRESS OF GERMANY REFLECTS DISQUIET

Annexionist Demands May End in Upheaval That Will Shake Empire.

NEW YORK CALLED FOR Popular Government Still Is Matter of Derision in Kaiser's Land.

German newspapers arriving in this country give an added insight into the disturbed political conditions in Germany. Just prior to the resumption of all power by the German military authorities, the following appeared in "Vorwärts," the official organ of the German Socialist party:

"The pan-Germans are not satisfied with the development of things at Breslau. Therefore they are flatly calling for a revolution. However, it is not to be a revolt of the people, since even they cannot doubt that not one-tenth of the German people would rise in behalf of pan-German annexionist aims as against a peace by understanding."

"They are about for a revolution of the Generals. 'Where is York?' is the heading of an article in the *Deutsche Tageszeitung*, which concluded:

"Where is York for whom this dire time is so anxiously waiting? Is there not one among all the paladins?"

"The allusion to York is a general famous in German history because he refused to obey his King's orders and offered to be shot. It is unmistakable. Here is a summons to our Generals to go over the head of the Kaiser and deal on their own initiative with the enemy."

"But the General who to-day would play the role of York, acting on the suggestion of the *Deutsche Tageszeitung*, would find out that in his case the incident would not be closed by the mere offer. For he would have neither historical necessity nor the will of the people behind him."

"In the interest of a small clique of disgruntled annexionist politicians."

Denied Concrete Threats.

"This incident shall remain forgotten in connection with the chaotic situation of the pan-Germans. When the revolutionary threats of Gen. von Gumbel against ex-Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg became known the pan-German press denied that it was a case of concrete threats. They asserted it was merely a 'warning by the solicitor of the people's fury that soon would burst in boundless fury.'"

"In this call for a new York also only a 'warning.' Nay—it is a concrete threat and advocacy of a military coup d'état."

"This is the first intimation of a 'revolutionary threat' by Gen. von Gumbel to reach this country. Gumbel, a prominent army officer, both in the east and the west during the first two years of the war and frequently was mentioned in the German War Office reports. He is retired, and the action referred to in the *Vorwärts* presumably is the reason."

"Here is a typical tirade against the German *Liberal* and *Reichsbanner*, two of the most prominent Socialists, who recently threatened the Government it would be 'swept away' by the masses if it continued to make common cause with the junkers. What follows was shouted at a recent Reichstag meeting by Herr von Oldenburg, a Conservative Deputy and arch junker."

"Erzberger and Scheidemann are making a fool out of the German Empire before all the world. If I were in authority I would send Erzberger into a front line trench, and Scheidemann would have to make himself useful in the auxiliary war service."

"If I were in authority and the Socialists refused to make munitions I would tell them:

"He who deserts his country in the hour of need is a low dog."

"The ring-leaders should be lined up against the wall and shot. [Great applause.]"

Use of Whip Urged.

"The Government must be like a tamer; now comes, now use the whip. He who only caresses soon will be thrown."

"What does this phrase 'self-determination' or 'plebiscite' mean? Whoever has gone through Poland and knows that country, will say with Huelshoff:

"Vox populi, vox revindicta!" (The voice of the people is the voice of God.)

The official record of the Reichstag session adds to this in parentheses: "Stormy laughter."

Von Oldenburg once achieved notoriety by declaring that the Kaiser should have the right to send a Lieutenant with ten men to close the Reichstag."

How bitter the feeling against Von Tirpitz and his Fatherland party, even among former German soldiers who have been wounded in the present war, is apparent from the following story which appeared in the *Reichsbanner Tagblatt*, a Socialist newspaper:

"At a meeting of the Fatherland party last night a number of war sufferers who were among the audience protested against certain statements made by one of the speakers. The result was that policemen clubbed the war sufferers out of the hall. Later in the evening an election meeting of the War Sufferers Band was scheduled to take place, at which the Reichstag Deputies Sivkovich (Progressive People's Party) and Davidsohn (Socialist), as well as the president of the band, Herr Kuttner, were to make speeches. In the speeches certain happenings at pan-German meetings were to be discussed. About 20,000 persons had gathered to attend the meeting."

Forbidden by Police.

"In the eleventh hour the meeting was forbidden by the police. The War Sufferers Band thereupon adjourned to its regular meeting place. No sooner had they arrived there when police again appeared and ordered the meeting closed."

"One of the members, who wore the Iron Cross, thereupon called upon the present immediately to surrender their Iron Crosses to the chairman as a protest against the action of the authorities."

Three hundred and twenty-five Iron Crosses were surrendered in by the chairman, who was instructed by the members of the band to send them to Grand Admiral von Tirpitz."

One of the pan-Germans of the annexionist press in Germany has been for months what is described as lack of unity, freedom and organization in the Democratic countries. Says the *Kölnische Zeitung*:

"For us Germans it is not difficult to choose between the new empire of the Hohenzollerns and the democratic in-

undation in the enemy countries, which is critical periods invariably results either in the tyranny of one single man or in the complete paralysis of the national life."

"We foresee the day when the possibility of peace will test the German nerves. The securities which we are forced to exact in the East may appear to part of our people in the light of conquest. Loyalty to the Fatherland must go to the last drop of blood and must not allow itself to be troubled or compromised by party doctrines."

"The German people must back their peace negotiations as one man, so that we shall obtain the necessary security for the future."

The principle of Liechtenstein, with the exception of Monaco and San Marino, the smallest State in Europe, has set a democratic example to Prussia. It has done away with the old feudal class electoral system and introduced direct suffrage for elections to its Landtag (Diet). News of this change is announced in two lines in the light of German newspapers. No mention of it has been found, however, in Berlin papers of the same date.

Liechtenstein, whose total area is six square miles—its greatest length is fifteen miles, and its average breadth about five miles—is a constitutional monarchy ruled by the house of the prince. It is a princely house of Austria. It has no army and there are no direct taxes.

More Child Criminals.

An alarming picture of the steady increase since the outbreak of the war of juvenile criminality was drawn in a recent lecture by Dr. Neukamp, a prominent Leipzig jurist, which was published widely and commented on in the German press. He cited these figures from the statistics of the Leipzig Juvenile Court:

Convictions in 1914..... 326
Convictions in 1915..... 498
Convictions in 1916..... 489
Convictions in 1917 (more than)..... 1,200

The same increase of juvenile delinquency has been noted in other parts of Germany, especially in the larger cities. Dr. Neukamp gave as the chief causes:

1. The unusually high wages paid during war time, which lead youths to experiment with crime.

2. The shortage of food, inciting youth to theft.

3. The reduction everywhere of the police staffs, every available man being drafted for war work.

4. Lack of parental supervision; the fathers being at the front and most mothers doing war work.

5. The Berlin press, to cover the costs of the war by a huge tax on the fortunes of the great capitalists throughout the empire, has been met by an organized nationwide press campaign opposing it. The Saxons Minister of Finance, in a speech in the Saxon upper house, categorically rejected the project on these main grounds:

1. Immediately after the war German commerce, industry and agriculture will require a gigantic capital for the reconstruction of the national business life.

2. The proposal if carried out would affect the workers as well as employers, since it would have a marked influence upon wages.

3. Indirect taxes and Government monopolies should be sufficient to cover the war costs, "nor should we, in any circumstances renounce our claims for war indemnities from our adversaries."

At the last session of the Bundesrat (Federal Council) all German inland shipping companies were placed virtually on a level with the big ocean lines and measures were adopted compelling the absolute Government monopoly of all inland shipping.

Notable among these measures is one forbidding the sale of stock in German companies to corporations which do not have their chief offices in Germany, or the bulk of whose capital is owned by foreigners.

DANISH PROTEST SINKING.

Brutality of Submarine Officers Arouses Neutral.

LONDON, March 17.—The sinking, outside the danger zone two days ago by a German submarine, of the Danish steamship *Randolborg*, 1,551 tons gross, is reported in an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen. The captain was taken on board the submarine and entered a protest, but the German commander said that unless the ship was abandoned within five minutes he would be sunk with all hands.

The German seized all food on board as well as other articles, and carried off the captain of the vessel. They promised to tow the boats to Norway, but instead of doing so left the men to their fate.

AIX MAY HAVE WILSON STATUE.

Movement Begun by Citizens of Army Recreation Resort.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, March 17.—A local movement has been started by the people of Aix-les-Bains, one of the noted French resorts selected as rest centers for American soldiers, to erect a statue of President Wilson in the public square. It is proposed also, as a tribute to Great Britain, to set up a bust of Queen Victoria, who was a frequent visitor there.

Nine reports on the Riviera have been authorized as recreation centers for American officers on leave.

SILK KNITTED CRAVATS.

Reminding one of home where "Knitting For Soldiers" is the sport royal for women.

The rich colors, the soft lustrous texture, the ease and facility with which they can be adjusted make them highly desirable.

Plain colors and contrasts. 2.50 and 3.50 each.

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TANK SHIP SINKS 300 FOOT U-BOAT

Continued from First Page.

face and in the setting sun so that he would be out of sight of us. But the officers and crew are pretty well trained in sighting objects in the rising and the setting of the sun, and are always on the lookout at these times.

"A general alarm was sounded and the chief gunner at once had all his men at their stations in a flash. That is one of the ideal things about the navy, which gets training all the time. They are the boys who are a credit to the United States."

"Fire was opened by our gunners under the direction of the chief gunner at 5:31 P. M., and Fritz at once returned it. He was then on our port beam, and the Captain ordered the helm hard astport. Fritz's shells began coming then, and they hit within ten or fifteen feet on both sides of the ship."

"His idea was to land a shot while the ship was zigzagging, but the shrewd seamanship of the Captain fooled him. The shots fell all around us, and it was looking bad for us for a while, because Fritz had the range perfect, but that did not discourage our brave gunners, who were making it pretty hot for him. For every shot he fired our gunners gave two or three in return."

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"After we got on our course again full speed everything was in our favor. The sky was covered with clouds and the moon did not come out until 10 P. M. We kept a double lookout all night just the same. When morning came most of us went looking for the souvenirs Fritz had sent us."

"To our surprise there were about fifteen pieces from every gun about the ship. We were talking, the chief gunner and myself, about how lucky we were to get out of it with our ship under our feet and were running along fine on March 4 when we heard the officer on the bridge let out an order."

"We could not make out what he said. Then a sailor came down and he asked him what was the matter. He said the Captain had sighted a periscope on his port beam. A general alarm was sounded and all the gunners were at their stations in a few seconds. The Captain ordered the helm over and we got Fritz on our starboard quarter."

"The gunners let go four shots at him and he took to cover right away. Out-side of these little things we had a fine trip and will start back for more sport with Fritz in a few days."

The mate said that in most of the forty-five minutes shrapnel was peppering the ship the American shells fell short, but that they kept on going until ninety had hit the sea, and the last few, because of the nearer approach of the submarine, which had apparently decided to make a last effort to disable the tank or her gunners, had fallen close to the U-boat, the final shot getting her.

Later in the night the mate said he and naval lookouts had observed close to the surface of the sea three series of signal lights far apart, flashing in a code undecipherable by the naval men and supposedly belonging to German submarines. The gunners stood until the lights were left astern.

The mate described the submarine as measuring about 2,000 tons, being at least 300 feet long and having two wireless masts about 150 feet apart. Her guns were surely six inch, were well handled and might have done more damage if the tank had not been maneuvered with remarkable cleverness by her capable skipper. The mate guessed

showers, but only one man was hit, S. W. Mastin, wiper, who was wounded in the leg. He fell from the deck and his shipmates were right there to pick him up in the thickest of the bursting shells. He lost quite a lot of blood before they brought him amidships.

"The noble work of the second officer and the steward no doubt saved his life. They took quite a piece of shrapnel out of his leg. If we had waited for a doctor blood poisoning might have set in, and we miles away from nowhere."

"The ship's officers and crew were there to help the gunners at all times, and several of them were down in the hold and passing ammunition to the guns, singing as they went along. You would have thought they were at a picnic. They did not save themselves a chance to think that it meant life or death until the show was over."

"Fritz was about seven or eight thousand yards from every gun about the ship. When he came in nearest our chief gunner ordered the guns at extreme elevation and the shots seemed to fall all around him. It was then that it looked good to us."

"One shot landed right on him, it seemed to us. He went down and did not come up again. We fired a few more shots at the spot where he had disappeared. In all we sent ninety shots toward him, firing about forty-five minutes. We thought that if he hadn't been hit he would have sent one of his tin fishes after us during the night."

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